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Karen K. Wong
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6-10-03

PATENT

APPLICANTS: WANG, et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/921,144

FILED: August 1, 2001

FOR: COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS
FOR GENERATING CHIMERIC
HETEROMULTIMERS

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Group Art Unit: 1642

Examiner: Helms, L.R.

Attorney Docket: 13403.0004.NPUS00

STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF EXAMINER INTERVIEW OF MAY 19, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Examiner Helms:

This paper is responsive to the Examiner's Interview Summary mailed May 21, 2003, requesting Applicants to file a statement of the substance of the interview conducted on May 19, 2003. Because Applicants have filed an Official Response to the last Office Action before receipt of this request, Applicants' statement is due one month after the mailing date of May 21, 2003. Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

As an initial matter, Applicants' attorney or agent greatly appreciates the courtesy that was extended by the Examiner during the telephonic interview conducted on May 19, 2003. During the interview, the undersigned agent discussed with the Examiner the rejections under 35

U.S.C. §112 second paragraph directed to claims 1-30, 87-93. The undersigned sought clarification about the rejections, and proposed amendments to these claims that were detailed in the official response subsequently filed on May 28, 2003.

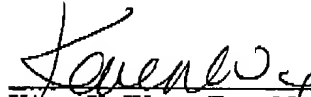
Also discussed during the interview was the reference by Pluckthun et al. (Immunology 3: 83-105, 1997). This reference was cited for teaching the antigen-binding units defined in claims 20-21 and 23-27. The undersigned pointed out to the Examiner a structural distinction between the cited and the claimed molecules. Whereas the cited Pluckthun antibodies are multivalent (i.e., containing more than one antigen-binding site), the antigen-binding unit captured in claims 20-21 and 23-27 are monovalent (i.e., containing a single site of binding). To further highlight the distinction and not limit the scope of the originally presented claims, the undersigned proposed amending the claims to reference the molecules depicted in Figure 18.

In view of the clarification and proposed amendments, the Examiner suggested that a written response articulating Applicants' arguments would overcome all rejections. An official response incorporating the discussed claim amendments was filed on May 28, 2003. The application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and an early Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct said fees from the deposit account of Howrey Simon Arnold & White, LLP; Deposit Account No. 08-3038, referencing Docket No. 13403.004.NPUS00.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: June 9, 2003


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